



# the Breeze

Official news from the City of **portland** the  
of possibilities.



## It's here. Are you prepared?

### Time to Make Plans

Hurricane season is upon us! The Atlantic Hurricane Season lasts from June to November of every year. Hurricanes, tropical storms and depressions typically occur within this six-month time frame. With this in mind, it is time to start preparing and making plans on what you will need to do if a hurricane, tropical storm or depression strikes. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there are a few extra precautions we must keep in mind this year.

The local National Weather Service office released The Official South Texas Hurricane Guide for 2020. This guide includes important information regarding hurricane preparedness, evacuation, forecasting, State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry, other emergency contact information and more. You can view this guide here: [The Official South Texas Hurricane Guide 2020](#).

#### **Make a Plan**

Preparing and planning for hurri-

cane season involves the whole family. Sitting together and creating your plans for evacuation or sheltering in place is a very important step in the process.

When making your plan, it is important to consider each family members' age, responsibilities and needs. Discussing and planning for any special needs can also help you be more prepared for all emergency situations. Don't forget to add the family pets and their needs to your emergency plans!

In addition to the South Texas Hurricane Guide, there are numerous resources available to aid and document your planning conversations and decisions on [ready.gov/plan](#).

#### **Emergency Preparedness Kit**

Preparing or updating your emergency kit is another very important step in the process. Your emergency preparedness kit should be stocked with all items you, your family members, and

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### Census 2020 Reminder

The 2020 Census is still underway! The Census is available online at <https://2020census.gov/>. You can also complete the Census over the phone or by mail. The Census is available in over 50 languages.

#### **Why Your Response Matters**

The Census results help determine how billions of dollars of federal funding is designated to states and communities. Some notable funding resources include: hurricane recovery funds, programs for schools and special education, local emergency services, coastal and wildlife management programs, anti-domestic and family violence programs and services, highway planning and construction, and many more. The results of the census also determine how many Congressional seats each state gets for the next 10 years!

#### **Response Goal**

Our response goal is 80%. Let's each do our part and encourage our friends and neighbors to shape our future!

### Community of Good - Hurricane Preparations

Portland is a unique community of good neighbors, friends, families, customers, and businesses. Exemplify our Community of Good by checking on your neighbors and friends to see if they need help getting prepared for future severe weather events or hurricanes. #PortlandTogether

## Time to Make Plans continued...

pets will need for at least three days. This kit should be stored in easy to carry bins or duffle bags. Your kit should also be in an area that is easily accessible, cool and dry.

Examples of items to have in your emergency kit:

- Water - at least 1 gallon per person per day for at least 3 days
- Food - at least a 3-day supply of nonperishable foods
- Medications and other needed medical devices or supplies
- Important documents
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes
- Whistle and face masks
- Charged external battery packs for cell phones
- Pet food, water, and supplies

For a complete list of items to have in your emergency kit and special items to add to prevent the spread of COVID-19, visit [ready.gov/kit](https://www.ready.gov/kit) and page 15 in the [South Texas Hurricane Guide](#).

### **Home Preparations**

As we learned from Hurricane Harvey, it is imperative to prepare our homes ahead of time. Some things to consider when preparing for severe storms, like tropical storms or hurricanes, are the elevation of your home and the integrity of your roof, doors and windows. To find ways to protect and re-enforce your home, visit the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes website: [flash.org/protect](https://flash.org/protect).

In addition to physical preparations, it is important to collect, review, update your important documents for your home, family members and pets. Examples of these documents include:

- Insurance policies
- Birth and Marriage certificates
- Medical and Veterinary records
- Bank and Utilities information
- Prescription information

### **Other Tasks to Complete**

Create a list of all electronics, appliances, and other items you have in the house. Note any identifying information on the electronics, appliances, and items. Additionally, photograph your home inside and out. This will help in the case a storm strikes and there's damage to your home or possessions.

Consider digitizing all important information, documents, and emer-

gency plan. This serves as a back up in case something happens to the original physical documents.

### **Keeping You Informed**

For more information and online resources available to help you and your family prepare for the 2020 hurricane season, please visit the City Spotlight section on the City's homepage. You can also find this information at [portlandtx.com/hurricaneseason](https://portlandtx.com/hurricaneseason).

## Plans for Reopening City Facilities and Services

The City plans to begin reopening City-owned facilities and resuming services in the coming weeks. Each department is working diligently on their plans and procedures for reopening safely to protect staff and our residents. Please visit [portlandtx.com/reopen](https://portlandtx.com/reopen) to see which City-owned facilities are reopened, what services are available, and the safety guidelines and rules for each building and service. This webpage will be updated regularly to ensure you are kept up to date!

### **Summer Activities from Portland Parks & Recreation**

The Portland Parks & Recreation Department will continue to post fun workouts, Do It Yourself (DIY) games and activities, and engaging posts on their Facebook page! Visit [facebook.com/Portland-Texas-Parks-and-Recreation-Department](https://facebook.com/Portland-Texas-Parks-and-Recreation-Department) to find these adult and kid friendly activities and videos.

Also, be on the lookout for fun summer activities and virtual programs from the Portland Parks & Recreation Department on their Facebook page and their website [portlandtx.com/126/Parks-Recreation!](https://portlandtx.com/126/Parks-Recreation!)

## Important Dates to Remember

- Tuesday, June 2, 2020: Portland City Council Meeting
- Sunday, June 14, 2020: Flag Day
- Tuesday, June 16, 2020: Portland City Council Meeting
- Friday, June 19, 2020: Juneteenth
- Sunday, June 21, 2020: Father's Day

## Tax Filing Due Date Extension

The Department of Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service announced, on April 9, that [Notice 2020-23 \(PDF\)](#) extends additional key tax deadlines for individuals and businesses. This means that anyone can now wait until July 15 to file their 2019 federal income tax return and pay any tax due. The notice also extends relief to estimated tax payments due June 15, 2020. Any individual or corporation that has a quarterly estimated tax payment due on or after April 1, 2020, and before July 15, 2020, can wait until July 15 to make that payment, without penalty. Individual taxpayers who need additional time to file beyond the July 15 deadline can request an extension to Oct. 15, 2020. Visit <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-extends-more-tax-deadlines-to-cover-individuals-trusts-estates-corporations-and-others> for additional information.